

Research Support for Community Researcher Programme

for Cohort two

March 2024

Commissioned by:



Workforce Training &
Education (WT&E) South
East, South East Schools of
Public Health



Photo credit: Groundswell

About Institute for Voluntary Action Research (IVAR)

- We are an independent charity that works closely with people and organisations striving for positive social change.
- We work with charities, foundations and public agencies to strengthen communities across the UK through action research.
- IVAR's mission is to strengthen communities through action research – so we use research to develop practical responses to the challenges and opportunities being faced across the sector, and we create spaces for people to come together and learn from and use our findings.

Our role on this project

IVAR will be working with community researchers to join the dots between conversations with stakeholders (such as NHS Workforce Training and Education Southeast representatives, health stakeholders and other delivery partners) **so that community-led research can inform priorities, service development for marginalised communities commissioning health services in the Southeast.**

Overview of our activities and approach

We will be delivering workshops and providing support to **12 groups of researchers over a 12-month period (April 2024 to March 2025)**.

- The **design of the support will be flexible** to meet the needs of researchers drawing on insights gathered from scoping conversations
- **All our support would be online.**
- Scoping conversations with community researchers and lead organisations in April 2024
- For the workshops, there will be **two cohorts of community researchers based on their ICB areas** they fall under.
- We will work with community researchers and design and facilitate ICB workshops
- We are working with the Oversight Group to draw out key findings from the work with community researchers and support learning.

Our offer to community researchers

1. **Workshop one (online, upto 3 hours):** Introducing aims and expectations/hearing from each other/discussing what it means to be a system leader/developing 'challenge, action and outcome statement' in preparation for your in-person showcase.
2. **Workshop two (online, upto 3 hours):** Action planning and stakeholder mapping to explore who the relevant health stakeholders are in your area.
3. **One-to-one support in between workshops (upto 2 hours)** with each group to help community researchers to identify where/how community research is best placed to influence health and care policy and practice by looking at who within the health and care sector might need to be involved.
4. **Workshop three:** tools and approaches to collaborative working
5. **One-to-one support to develop key messages and presentations for local ICBs (upto 2 hours);** helping community researchers have a clear and succinct ask for the ICBs and their offer in terms of support.

What will happen next?

- **Booking in a scoping conversation with you (upto 30mins)** to explore how to support you in your ambitions regarding next steps for your research, starting in the first week of April 2024.
- **We will share dates for the first workshop in May 2024.**
- If you have any questions, please get in touch –
Sonakshi Anand: Sonakshi@ivar.org.uk



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